

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
INOUE et al.)
Application Number: To be Assigned)
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: DISK ARRAY DEVICE AND MAINTENANCE)
METHOD FOR DISK ARRAY DEVICE)
Atty Docket No. WILL.0005)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

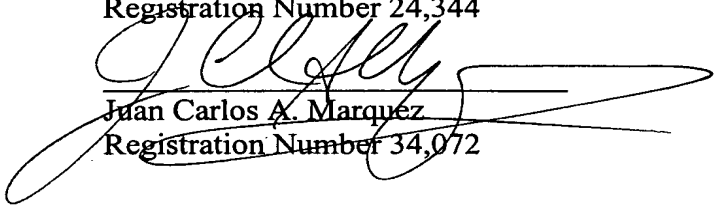
Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of December 15, 2003, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese Patent Application 2003-416230.

A certified copy of Japanese Patent Application 2003-416230 will be submitted upon receipt from Applicant. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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